Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ ID Nos: 5, 6, 8 or 10 or the fully complementary sequence thereto,

(b) a nucleotide sequence encoding an about 200 kDa outer membrane protein of strain of *Moraxella catarrhalis* and consisting of SEQ ID Nos: 7, 9 or 11, and

(c) a nucleotide sequence encoding an about 200 kDa outer membrane protein of a ~~another~~ strain of *Moraxella catarrhalis* other than strains 4223, Q8 and LES-1 which is characterized by a tract of consecutive G nucleotides which is 3 or a multiple thereof in length, an ATG start codon about 80 to 90 bp upstream of said tract and said tract being located in a portion of said nucleotide sequence which encodes a portion of said outer membrane protein between amino acids 25 and 35 ~~encoded by the nucleotide sequence~~.

2. (Previously amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein said another strain of *Moraxella catarrhalis* in (c) is a strain expressing an about 200 kDa protein as identified in Table 1A other than strains 4223, Q8 and LES-1.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously amended) A vector for transforming a host comprising a nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claims 1 or 2.

6. (Original) The vector of claim 5 which is a plasmid vector.

7. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ vector for transforming a host ~~of claim 5~~ which has the identifying characteristics of pKS348 (ATCC 203529) shown in Figure 10 or pKS294 (ATCC 203528) shown in Figure 9.

8. (Currently amended) A ~~The~~ vector for transforming a host ~~of claim 5~~ which has the identifying characteristics of pQWE shown in Figure 19 or pQWF shown in Figure 20.

9. (Currently amended) A host cell transformed by a vector as claimed in claim 5 and expressing an about 200 kDa protein of a strain of *Moraxella catarrhalis* or ~~an approximately~~ C-terminal half thereof.

10. (Original) The host cell of claim 9 which is *E. coli*.

11. to 23. (Cancelled)